

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces the prior version.

1. (Currently Amended) A tuned absorber for ~~(5A, 5B)~~ for attachment to a railway rail ~~(1)~~, which absorber ~~(5A, 5B)~~ comprises a body ~~(6)~~ formed of elastomeric material and of at least one region of a first material which is denser than the said elastomeric material, which region is located within the said elastomeric material and forms an active mass, ~~(7m₁, 7m₂, 7m₃)~~ wherein a member ~~(8)~~ of a second material denser than the said elastomeric material is also located within the said elastomeric material, adjacent to the said active mass ~~(7m₁, 7m₂, 7m₃)~~, which member ~~(8)~~ is coupled to the rail ~~(1)~~ when in use so as to provide a resonant surface against which the said active mass ~~(7m₁, 7m₂, 7m₃)~~ can vibrate.

2. (Currently Amended) An absorber as claimed in claim 1, wherein the said member ~~(8)~~ is semi-rigidly attached to the rail ~~(1)~~ when the absorber ~~(5A, 5B)~~ is in use.

3. (Currently Amended) An absorber as claimed in claim 2, wherein the member ~~(8)~~ has at least two holes therethrough for receiving attachment means whereby the member ~~(8)~~ may be attached to a rail ~~(1)~~ when the absorber ~~(5A, 5B)~~ is in use.

4. (Currently Amended) An absorber as claimed in ~~any preceeding~~ claim 1, wherein the said member ~~(8)~~ comprises a beam.

5. (Currently Amended) An absorber as claimed in claim 4, wherein the said beam ~~(8)~~ is shaped so as to have a channel ~~(8a)~~ running therealong.

6. (Currently Amended) An absorber as claimed in claim 4, wherein the said beam ~~(8)~~ is shaped so as to have a hollow rectangular section.

7. (Currently Amended) An absorber as claimed ~~any preceeding~~ in claim 1, wherein the first and second denser materials comprise the same material.

Cancel Claims 8-9

10. (Currently Amended) An absorber as claimed in ~~any preceding claim 1,~~ wherein the or each active mass (~~$7m_1, 7m_2, 7m_3$~~) comprises a multiplicity of unconnected pieces of said denser material.

11. (Original) An absorber as claimed in claim 10, wherein the said pieces of said multiplicity differ in size from one another.

12. (Currently Amended) An absorber as claimed in claim 10 ~~or 11,~~ wherein the said pieces of said multiplicity are surrounded by an elastomeric material, a viscous liquid or air.

13. (Currently Amended) An absorber as claimed in claim 10, ~~11 or 12,~~ wherein the said pieces comprise spherical balls.

14. (Currently Amended) A tuned absorber assembly for a railway rail, which assembly comprises tuned absorbers (~~5A, 5B~~) as claimed in ~~any preceding claim 1~~ for respectively abutting each side of a web (~~1e~~) of the rail (~~1~~) and a resilient clip (~~30~~) for applying a securing force to maintain the absorbers (~~5A, 5B~~) in position on the rail web (~~1e~~), wherein each tuned absorber (~~5A, 5B~~) has means (~~10~~) for securing the clip (~~30~~) thereto.

15. (Currently Amended) A tuned absorber as claimed in claim 14, wherein the securing means comprise sockets (~~10~~) formed in respective faces of the tuned absorbers (~~5A, 5B~~) for receiving respective free ends (~~33a, 33b~~) of the clip (~~30~~).

16. (Currently Amended) A tuned absorber assembly as claimed in claim 15, wherein the centre line of all parts of the clip (~~30~~) lie substantially in the same plane except for the free ends thereof (~~33a, 33b~~), which free ends (~~33a, 33b~~) extend out of the said plane in substantially mutually-opposite directions, and wherein the said sockets (~~10~~)

are formed in end faces of the said tuned absorbers (5A, 5B).

17. (Currently Amended) A tuned absorber assembly as claimed in claim 14, wherein the said sockets (10) are formed as part of a channelled member (8) located within the said tuned absorber (5A, 5B).

18. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a tuned absorber (5A, 5B), as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~, on a web (1e) of a railway rail (1), which method comprises the steps of:

pinbrazing onto the rail web (1e) at least two studs (21) at preselected locations;

bringing the tuned absorber (5A, 5B) into abutment with the rail web (1e) such that the studs (21) extend into respective holes (9) formed through the tuned absorber (5A, 5B); and

applying a releasable fastening (24A, 24B) to each stud (21) so as to maintain the tuned absorber thereon in contact with the rail web (1e).

19. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the studs are threaded (21) and the said releasable fastening comprises a nut (24A, 24B).

Cancel Claims 20-21

22. (New) A tuned absorber assembly as claimed in claim 15, wherein the said sockets are formed as part of a channeled member located within the said tuned absorber.